



Regional Service Council Minutes Region 5

Meeting Date: November 22, 2013

Meeting Location: Department of Child Services
Tippecanoe County Office
250 Main St., Ste 301
Lafayette, IN

Council Members Present: Angela Smith Grossman, Regional Manager; Stacey Morgan, Clinton County FCM Supervisor; Sarah Sailors, Director Carroll County DCS; Jennifer Johnson, Foster Care Specialist Supervisor; and Laura Zimmerman, Director Benton County DCS. Judge Faith Graham, Tippecanoe County; Paige Heath, Tippecanoe County FCM Supervisor; Penny Neal, Warren County FCM; Coleen Hamrick, Tippecanoe County CASA Director, and Karen Hayden, Director White County DCS

Council Members Absent: Judge Rader, Warren County; Debbie Brenneman, Foster Parent; and Judge Henderson, Fountain County.

Others In Attendance: Lois Logan-Beard; Sandy Lock, Director Clinton County DCS; Sonya Janssen-Luper, Director Fountain/Warren County DCS; Cassie Wade, Bauer Family Resources; Sandy Waldrige and Nancy Mahan, Children's Bureau; Hong-Phuc Nguyen; Morgan Gilbert, Wabash Valley Alliance; Kelly Hunckler, Gibault; Vivian Lueck, Child & Family Partners; Angie Guimond, Tippecanoe County DCS Director; Debbie Branfield, Crossroad Child and Family Services

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order at: 9:00 am

1. Community Partners

Bauer –

Financials reviewed and handouts provided to show current spending

Tippecanoe County request for preventions funds –

Kindergarten Camp- Tippecanoe County DCS requests \$9000 to fund the expansion of Kindergarten Camp to Miami and Glen Acres Elementary Schools. The funding will pay for the stipends for a teacher and teacher's aide in two classes. Each class will have 20-25 children. The camp will run for a half day for four weeks. Additional partners in this program include IU Arnett, Lafayette School Corporation, Tippecanoe County School Corporation, the United Way of Greater Lafayette and Food Finders.

- Regional Services Council approved \$9000 for Kindergarten Camp

Matrix Crib program- Tippecanoe County DCS requests \$5000 for the purchase of 133 cribs (\$145 each) and infant sleep sacks to sustain their crib distribution program. This program is currently funded by private donations and provides parenting education and a crib to families who participate in the program in an effort to promote safe sleeping and parenting development. The curriculum is 8 weeks long and includes an individual one on one meeting to determine needs/goals of the family. Tippecanoe County has experienced at least five infant deaths in the last 18 months related to unsafe sleeping conditions.

- Regional Services Council approved \$5000 for Matrix Crib program

Children's Bureau –

Reviewed financials and handouts given to members

Self referrals are the highest

During this reporting period families were assisted with \$8,781.65 in material relief funds in each of the following counties:

- Clinton: \$2061.98
- Fountain: \$2775.61
- Warren: \$1354.72
- White: \$2589.34

This included help with utilities, rent, food and domestic violence assistance.

The first Advisory/Steering Committee was held on September 23rd.
Sandy shared some success stories.

2. Meridian to open service standard

Meridian will offer home based therapy and home based casework as well as MRO services. This organization is a community mental health agency and has also been serving Benchmark who will eventually have licensed foster homes in Region 5.

- Regional Services Council approved opening these service standards for Meridian to serve region 5, primarily in Benton, White and Tippecanoe with a desire to expand.

3. Fatherhood Service Standard proposals

1. Child and Family Partners provided a full proposal. This would be a new contract beginning in February 2014
 2. Children's Bureau already has a contract for this service standard and would simply be asking to serve region 5
 3. Behavior Resource – proposal was incomplete
- Child and Family Partners –contract for fatherhood service standards was approved
 - Children's Bureau – This service standard was approved and the region selection will be activated

4. Children's Mental Health Initiative –

Presentation by John Pavlack, DMHA and Katie Connel.

- CHINS or legal services shouldn't be needed to receive mental health services
- DCS will be a funding source
- 6 – 17 years old
- Not BDDS eligible (there is a multi-disciplinary team made up of DCS, BBDS, CMH for extreme need kids)
- Not eligible for Medicaid

- Child in this program may still receive wraparound services
- Family evaluations, similar to assessments but there are no allegations of abuse or neglect
- Hopes to be rolled out by the end of the year
- FCMs are being educated on the process
- Schools and probation are big referral sources

5. Biennial Plan Progress –

The next meeting is December 4th. The action plan will be completed mid December and the rest of the Biennial Plan will be ready for review and approval on January 10th. If it is available, it will be sent to members in advance

The 2014 RSC meeting dates will be available at the January 2014 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 am

Next meeting is January 10, 2013 @ 9:00 am

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Smith Grossman, MSW, LSW
Regional Manager, Region 5